

**SECRET**

IC 75-2550

The Honorable Robert F. Ellsworth  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
International Security Affairs  
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Ambassador Ellsworth:

I very much appreciate your letter of 7 October concerning the last issue of the Review of National Intelligence (RONI) and your suggestions for improvements in future issues. We are currently reappraising the form, content, and purpose of the RONI, and your comments are timely and pertinent in all three respects.

We believe, as you do, that RONI should pay greater attention to in-depth intelligence analysis (and relatively less to current intelligence), and our next issue will do so. In this context, it occurs to me that the briefing on the Arab  military balance to be provided by the NIO/ME at the next meeting of the NSCIC Working Group might lead to a discussion which could form the basis for an article on Middle East problems in RONI.

25X1

I note your continuing attention to the form and content of NIE 11-14. I believe that a concise summary of senior consumers' reactions to the published version of that Estimate might be a good way for RONI to discuss the strong and weak points of that Estimate. Possibly a similar piece on NIE 11-3/3, after it is published, might be useful as well; I believe that that document reflects considerable improvement in the Community's efforts to state uncertainties.


We agree that an analysis--or several analyses--of intelligence coverage of Indochina ought to be done. The June RONI, having noted the problem and suggested some preliminary conclusions, specifically allowed for just such an effort. But I would like to ponder for a little longer just when, how, and to what practical end such a study (or studies) should be undertaken.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

Finally, I should mention that we heartily concur with your notion that RONI might serve as an "ideal place to communicate what the consumer feels about the Community's performance." We have hoped all along that, inter alia, RONI might ultimately serve this function.

Sincerely,

  
Samuel V. Wilson  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Deputy to the DCI for the  
Intelligence Community

Distribution:

O - Adrse  
1 - D/DCI/IC  
✓ 1 - IC/Registry  
1 - PRD/RONI  
1 - PRD/Chron  
1 - WH Chron  
1 - PRD/OC  
DCI/IC/PRD/

/17Oct75

**SECRET**

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/05/12 : CIA-RDP80M01133A001100030003-1

Next 2 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2004/05/12 : CIA-RDP80M01133A001100030003-1